

Good Life. Great Connections.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO FILING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS

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This guide is not intended to take the place of the law, but to provide you with a general understanding of some of the requirements. This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.

REGISTERING IN NEWORKS AND FILING AN INITIAL CLAIM

Before you register or file your claim, visit **dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits** to get information and answers to frequently asked questions.

You must register in NEworks - https://neworks.nebraska.gov - as part of the initial unemployment claim process. You will first complete a personal profile, an online resume, and finally, your initial claim for benefits. By law, registration is required in order to receive unemployment insurance benefits, even if you have a recall date with a particular employer or are a member of a union with a hiring hall. All claimants must register and complete an online resume.



Step 1: Go to the NEworks home page and click the "UNEMPLOYMENT" button.

Get Information

Unemployment benefits are paid from the Nebraska State Unemployers. No deductions are taken from employees' payche eligibility requirements as defined in the Nebraska Employme unemployment benefits, including how to apply, qualify and re



File or Manage a Claim

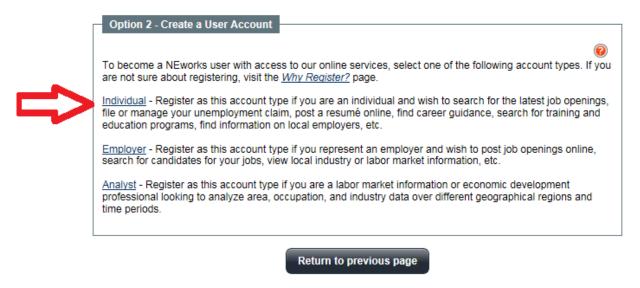
Prior to filing an unemployment insurance claim, you must rewide accurate employment infor regarding your eligibility and additional instructions will be male available online at dol.nebraska.gov.

Report Unemployment Insurance Fraud

Unemployment fraud is when anyone receives unemploymen include returning to work full-time but continuing to receive ur

Step 2: On the next screen, choose "File or Manage a Claim."

Step 3: You will then reach the sign-in page. If this is your first time visiting NEworks or you have not used the site for over one year, choose Option 2 – Create a User Account - Individual.

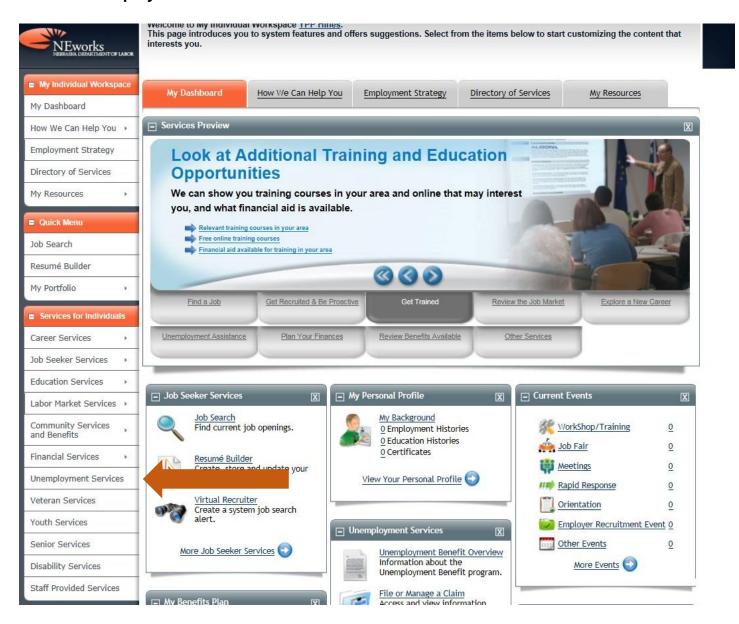


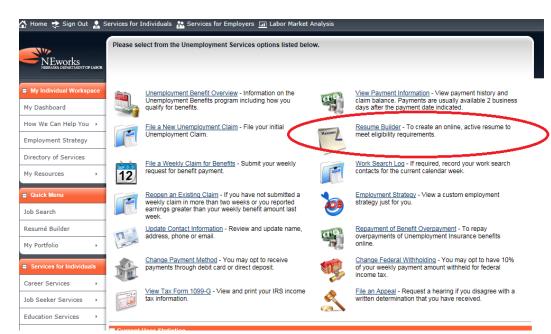
If you are a recent, previous user of NEworks, go to Option 1 and log in with your user name and password. If you forgot your user name or password, click the link below the password field – "Retrieve User Name or Password." Take note of your user name and password for future use.



- Step 4: You will be presented with our privacy agreement. Read and click "I Agree" to continue.
- **Step 5:** Complete several screens regarding your profile. If you already have a profile, make sure it is up to date.

Step 6: After you have completed your registration, you will be directed to your dashboard. Choose **Unemployment Services** from the left menu.



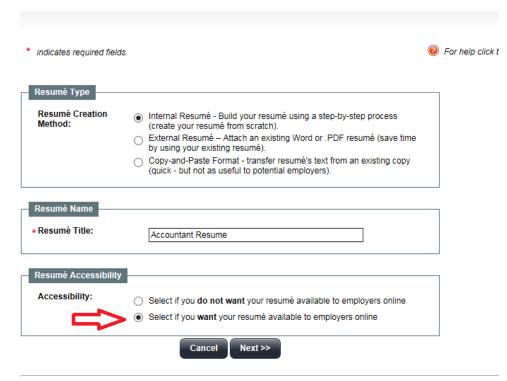


Step 7: Choose Resume Builder. If you choose "File a New Unemployment Claim," you will be redirected to create a resumé.

Step 8: **Create a resumé.** Start building your resume by clicking the "Create new Resumé" button. If you already have a resumé, make sure it is up to date.

Step 9: Post your resumé online.

NOTE: To be eligible for unemployment benefits, your resumé must be available to employers online in the "Resumé Accessibility" section. Even if you are going back to work for your employer or are a member of a union with a hiring hall, you must complete an online resumé.



Step 10: After you complete your resumé (this will be several screens), click the "Save Resumé and Return" button.

Step 11: Choose **Unemployment Services** from the following options:

What would you like to do next?



Search for Jobs

This option will let you search for jobs using the criteria you just entered into your online resume.



Edit this Resumé

This option will enable you to edit your newly created resumé.



View all vour Resumés

By using this option, you can view your current resumés, update any existing resumés or create a new resumé.



Add another Resumé

This option will take you to the Resumé Wizard to create a new resumé.



WIA Pre-Application

Fill out an application to determine if you may be eligible for WIA program benefits.



Return to My Dashboard

This option will take you back to your personal dashboard page where you can access additional services.



Unemployment Services

This option will take you throught the unemployment insurance claim process, including filing a claim, completing your weekly certification, and modifying your contact and payment information

Please select from the Unemployment Services options listed below.



Unemployment Benefit Overview - Information on the Unemployment Benefits program including how you qualify for benefits.



<u>File a New Unemployment Claim</u> - File your initial Unemployment Claim.



<u>File a Weekly Claim for Benefits</u> - Submit your weekly request for benefit payment.



Reopen an Existing Claim - If you have not submitted a weekly claim in more than two weeks or you reported earnings greater than your weekly benefit amount last





Update Contact Information - Review and update name, address, phone or email.



Change Payment Method - You may opt to receive payments through debit card or direct deposit.



View Tax Form 1099-G - View and print your IRS income tax information.



View Payment Information - View payment history and claim balance. Payments are usually available 2 business days after the payment date indicated.



Resume Builder - To create an online, active resume to meet eligibility requirements.



Work Search Log - If required, record your work search



Employment Strategy - View a custom employment strategy just for you.



Repayment of Benefit Overpayment - To repay overpayments of Unemployment Insurance benefits online.



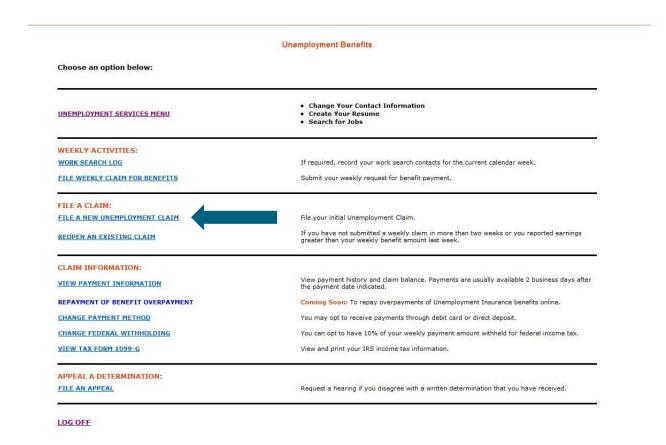
Change Federal Withholding - You may opt to have 10% of your weekly payment amount withheld for federal



File an Appeal - Request a hearing if you disagree with a written determination that you have received.

Step 12: You will be presented with this menu. Choose File a New **Unemployment Claim.** Or, if you are reopening a claim, filing a weekly claim, or completing a work search log, choose the appropriate option.

Step 13: From this menu, choose FILE A NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIM.



Step 14: Continue through several more screens to complete the filing of your initial claim. You will know that your claim has been submitted when you receive a confirmation number.

Example below:

Confirmation Number: R2015060216061473532

If you are using a public computer, be sure to sign out of your NEworks account to protect your personal information.



HOW TO FILE A WEEKLY CLAIM ONLINE

Each time you file a weekly claim, you will be asked if you worked. Answer "yes" if you performed any work, even if it was temporary, part-time, or self-employment. If you worked for more than one employer in a week, add your earnings from all employers. For self-employment, report your weekly earnings after you deduct your direct business expenses for that week.

If you earned less than your weekly benefit amount for any claimed week, you may be eligible for partial benefits.

NESL: 48-625.

After you file your initial claim or reopen your existing claim, you must file a weekly claim for benefits each week you are requesting payment, even if your eligibility is being decided or you have an appeal pending.

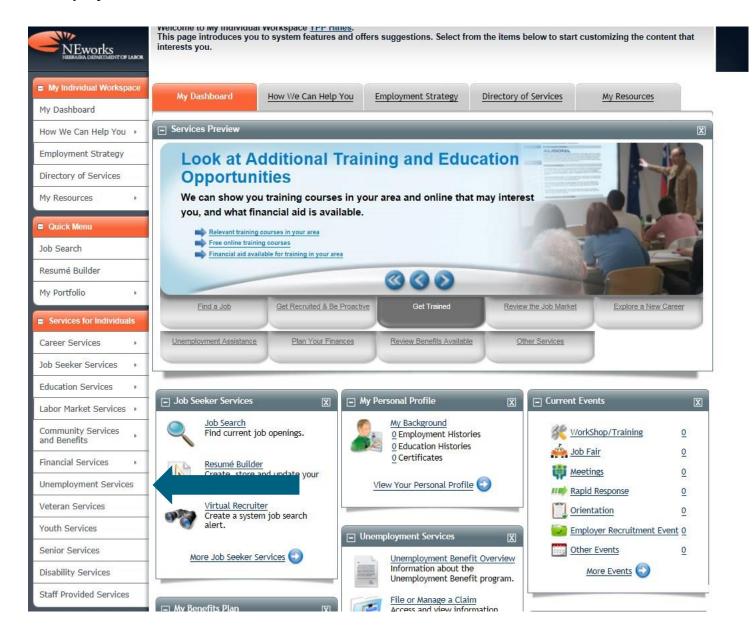


The unemployment benefit week begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday. You have from Sunday through Friday to file a claim for the previous week.

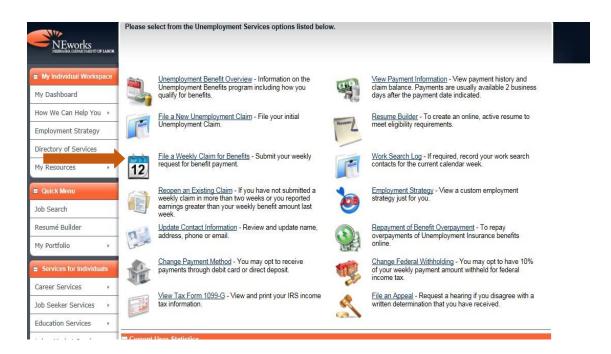
To file a weekly claim go to <u>neworks.nebraska.gov.</u>
Enter your login information (username and password) and click on **Sign In**.



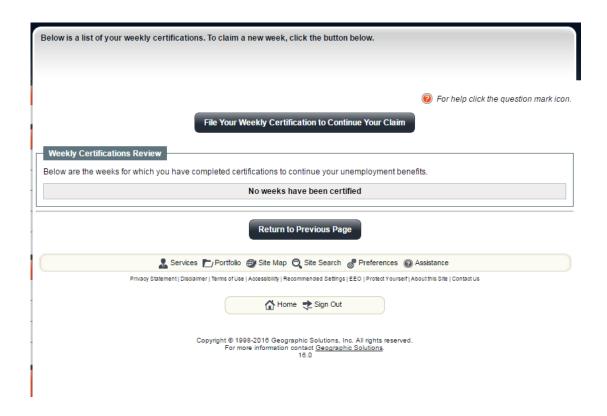
After signing in, you will arrive at "My Dashboard." From the left links menu, click on **Unemployment Services**.

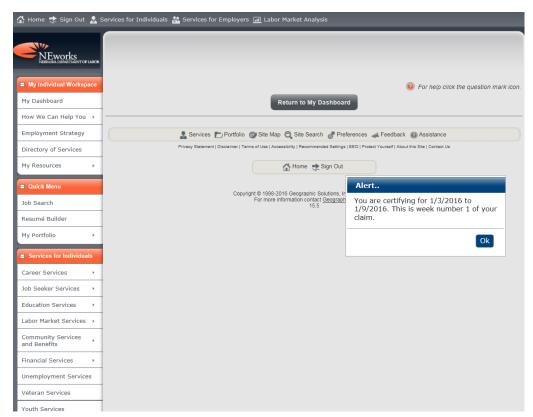


From the Unemployment Services dashboard, click on File a Weekly Claim for Benefits. If you need more information before filing your claim, click Unemployment Benefit Overview.

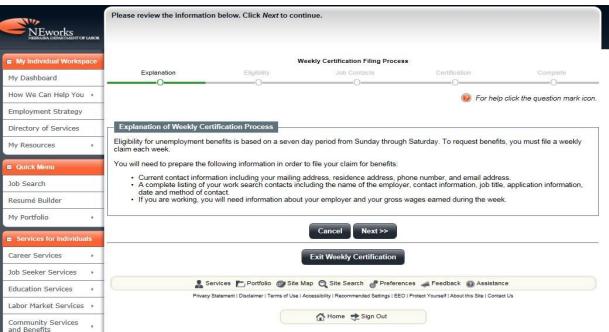


To file your claim for weekly benefits, click on File Your Weekly Certification to Continue Your Claim.



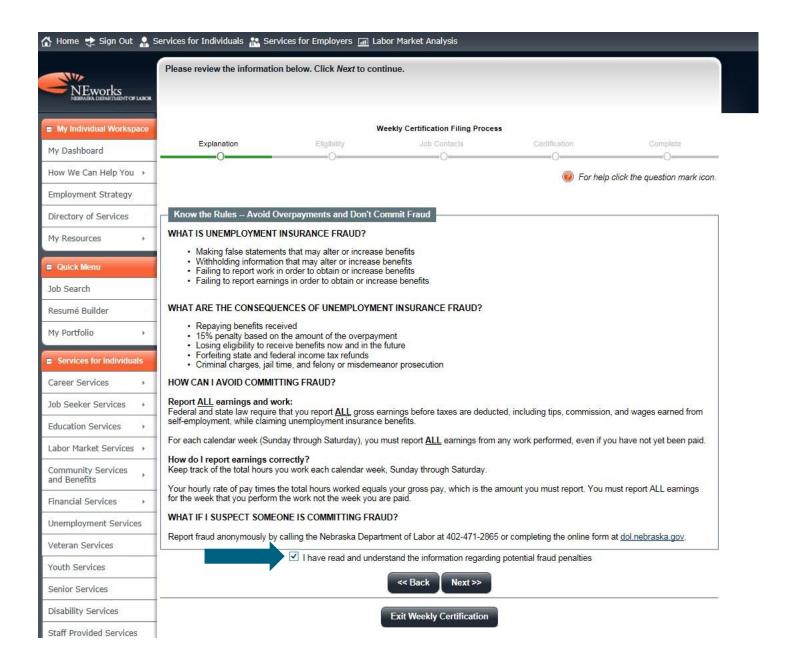


If you selected File Your Weekly Certification, the "Important Information" box will display the dates of the week you are certifying and the weekly claim number. Click OK.

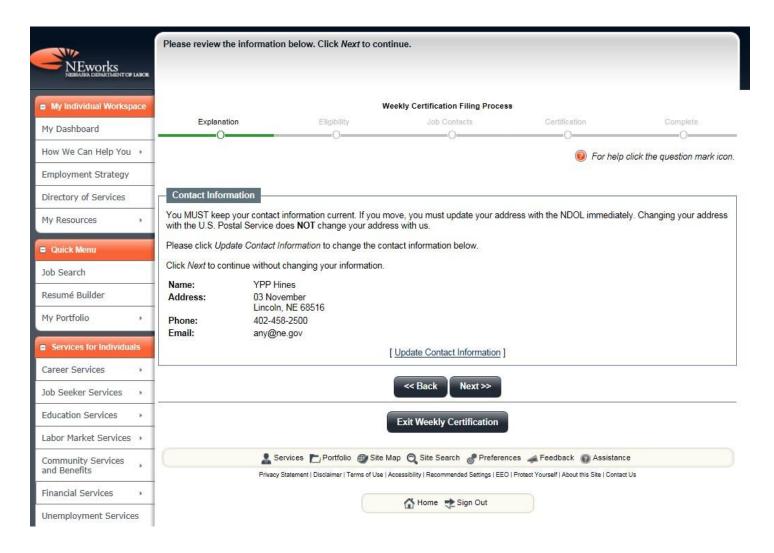


After reading the "Explanation of Weekly Certification Process," click Next >>.

It is important that you review the information listed on the "Know the Rules..." page, as it contains information about reporting your earnings and how to avoid committing fraud. Once you have read this explanation, click on the check box to verify that you have read and understand the information, then click **Next >>**.

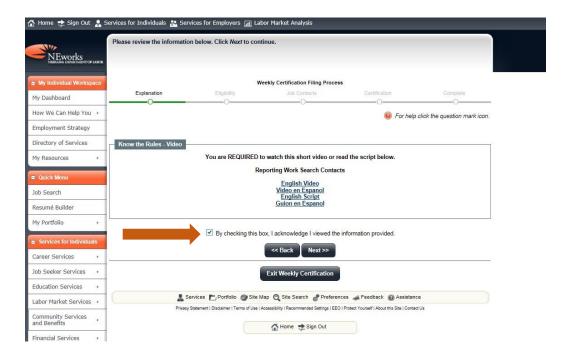


On this page you will have the opportunity to review your contact information. Please make sure it is up to date. If it is not, select the "Update Contact Information" link. After verifying your contact information, click **Next >>**.

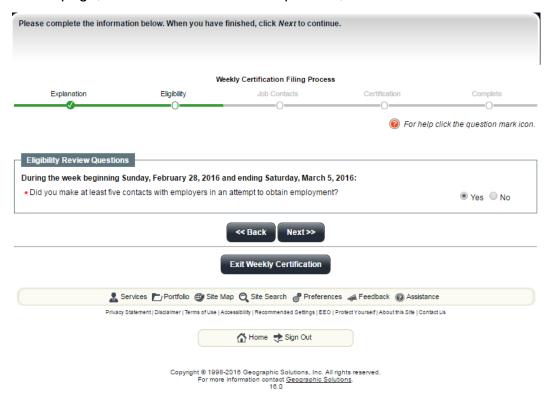


Next you may be required to watch a short video, or read the script if you are unable to watch the video. Once you have completed this step, check the box to acknowledge that you have reviewed the information provided, then click **Next >>**.

Note: If you have a return-to-work date with your employer, click Next>> and skip to page 22 of this instruction guide.



On this page, answer the work search question, then click Next >>.

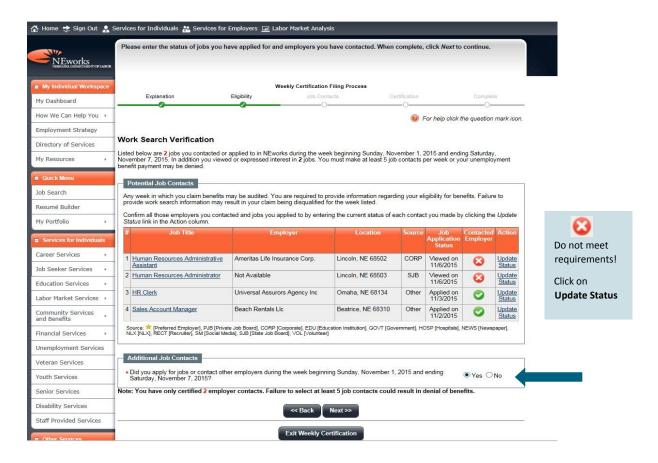


You will then be taken to the work search page. If you logged any contacts during the benefit week, those will appear. If not, you will have the opportunity to enter them by answering "Yes" to the "Additional Job Contacts" question. After you click **Next** >> you can enter the contacts. Work search contacts that display a red circle with an X in the middle do not meet requirements. You may click on the **Update Status** link to provide the missing information. To show additional progress toward hiring (for instance a second interview) with an employer you contacted in a prior week, you will need to add the employer again to your Work Search Log.

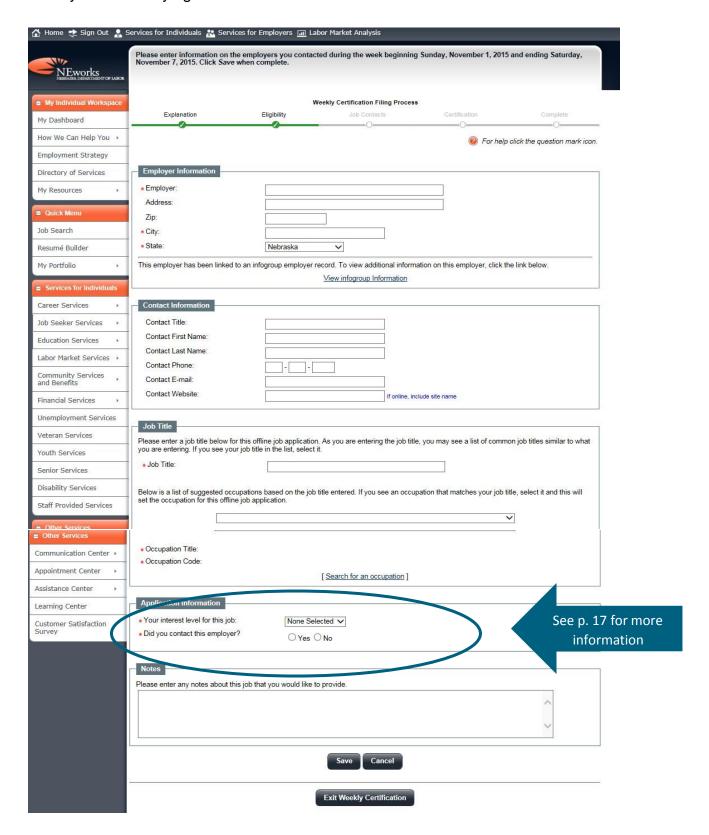
Please note:

Initial claims effective October 18, 2015 or after require five work search contacts per week, including one contact using NEworks. If you reside in Nebraska or an out-of-state county bordering Nebraska, you must make at least one contact per week using NEworks. **Work search requirements will change during the duration or your claim. Please see chart below.**

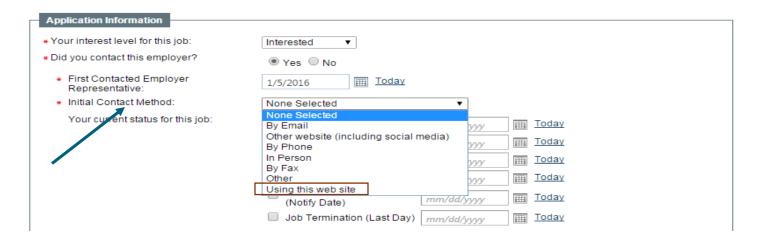
Weeks Claimed	Number of required work search contacts	Required applications submitted	Required minimum number of days to contact employers	Required number of contacts using NEworks
1-5	5	1	1	1
6-13	5	2	3	1
14 or more	5	2	4	1



After answering "Yes" to the "Additional Job Contacts," the following page will appear. Enter all work search contact information. You will need to repeat this process for each contact required for the week you are certifying.

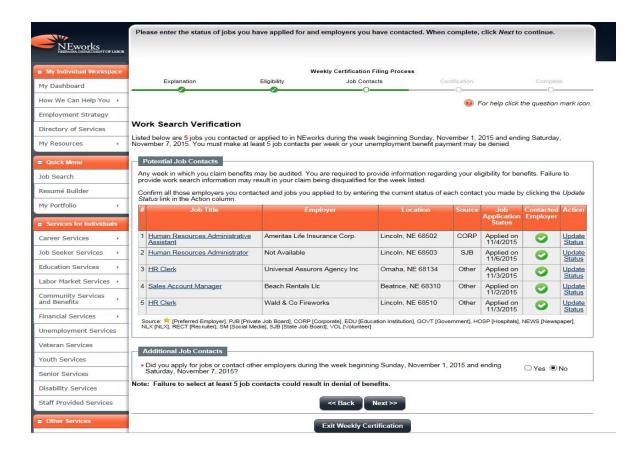


*Note: If the job contact was made in NEworks, the Initial Contact Method should be set as Using this web site.

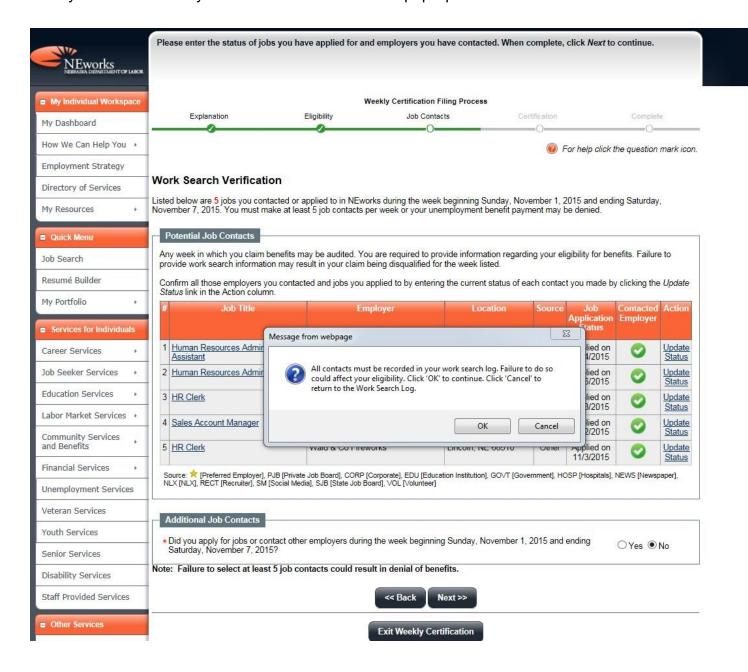


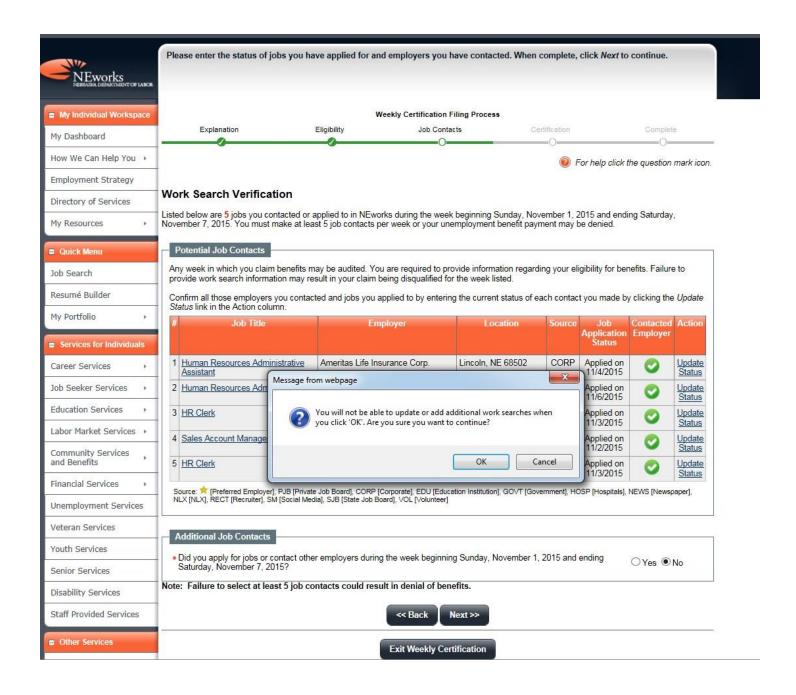
Review the **Application Information** section for each job listed <u>prior</u> to submitting your weekly claim for benefits and verify that you have met all work search requirements.

Be sure that you have entered all of your contacts and all of the required information. You won't be able to add or modify the work search contacts information after proceeding to the next page. After all work search contacts have been added, click **Next >>**.



After you click **Next >>** you will see two confirmation pop-up boxes.





Your weekly work searches may be audited. If your recorded work search contacts are not verifiable, you may be disqualified from benefits and required to repay benefits previously received for the audited week. Under the provisions of the Nebraska Employment Security Law, misrepresentation of your work search or any other information may result in loss of eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits.

Next you will be taken to the weekly claim information page. After you read the instructions, click **CONTINUE**.



You will be presented with the "Weekly Certification-Wage Information" page. After you answer the questions, click **CONTINUE**.



Next, answer the "Eligibility Information" questions, then click CONTINUE.

Weekly Certification - Eligibility Information You are claiming for the week: 02/28/2016 through 03/05/2016 Week number of your claim: 7 *Indicates required fields 1. *Were you available four or more days during the week to accept a job if offered? You are considered available for work if you are appearing for duty before any court under a lawfully issued summons. : O Yes O No 2. *Were you an inmate in a penal or custodial institution for four or more days of the week? Yes No 3. *Were you physically able to work four or more days during the week? : O Yes O No 4. *Did you refuse an offer to work or a referral to a job? : O Yes O No 5. *Did you begin school or did your class schedule change? Yes No 6. *Did you begin receiving Pension benefit, or did the amount of your benefit change? : O Yes O No 7. *Did you receive any payments other than wages or pension from an employer such as vacation pay, holiday pay, worker's : O Yes O No 8. *Did you make at least 2 applications for suitable employment during the week? : O Yes O No 9. *Did you contact employers on at least 3 different days during the week? : O Yes O No 10. *Did you use NEworks to conduct a job search this week? : O Yes O No CONTINUE BACK CANCEL

You will then see the "Closing Statement" page. Make sure all of your answers are correct. To edit a response, use the **BACK** button at the bottom of the page. **After you click Submit, you will not be able to change your answers.** You will need to check both boxes at the bottom before being allowed to submit your weekly claim.

Note: If you do NOT have a return-to-work date with your employer, click Submit and skip to page 24 of this instruction guide.

Weekly Certification - Closing Statement	Weekly Certification - Closing Statement				
You are claiming for the week: 02/28/2016 through 03/05/2 Week number of your claim: 7	You are claiming for the week: 02/28/2016 through 03/05/2016 Week number of your claim: 7				
Your entries for your Weekly Claim are as follows: Note: To edit a response, use the BACK button at the bottom of the page.					
1. During the week listed above, did you work?	: No				
2. County where filing today?	: Lancaster (NE)				
3. Were you available four or more days during the week to accept a job if offered? You are considered available for work if you are appearing for duty before any court under a lawfully issued summons.	: Yes				
4. Were you an inmate in a penal or custodial institution for four or more days of the week?	: No				
5. Were you physically able to work four or more days during the week?	: Yes				
6. Did you refuse an offer to work or a referral to a job?	: No				
7. Did you begin school or did your class schedule change?	: No				
8. Did you begin receiving pension benefits, or did the amount of your benefits change?	: No				
9. Did you receive any payments other than wages or pension from an employer such as vacation pay, holiday pay, worker's compensation or a bonus?	: No				
10. Did you make at least 2 applications for suitable employment during the week?	: Yes				
11. Did you contact employers on at least 3 different days during the week?	: Yes				
12. Did you use NEworks to conduct a job search this week?	: Yes				
13. Did you make at least five contacts with employers in an attempt to obtain employment?	: Yes				
14. Number of work search contacts certified	: 5				

^{*} I understand that I have filed for my weekly benefit claim. All information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the law provides for penalties, including loss of benefits and/or criminal charges, for making false statements to obtain unemployment benefits. Any week I claim benefits may be audited and I will be required to provide information regarding my eligibility for benefits."





^{* 🗑 &}quot;I understand that I have filed week 7 on this claim. Work search requirements change based on the number of weeks claimed. I understand it is my responsibility to review these requirements as provided on the Weekly Certification Confirmation Page."

Continued from page 14 for individuals with a return-to-work date from their employer.

You will be taken to the Weekly Claim for your information:

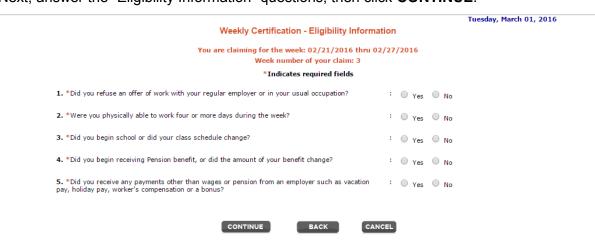


After you read the instructions, click CONTINUE

You will be presented with the "Weekly Certification-Wage Information" page. After you answer the questions, click **CONTINUE**.



Next, answer the "Eligibility Information" questions, then click CONTINUE.



You will then see the "Closing Statement" page. Make sure all of your answers are correct. To edit a response, use the **BACK** button at the bottom of the page. **After you click Submit, you will not be able to change your answers.** You will need to check the box at the bottom of the page before being allowed to submit your weekly claim.

Tuesday, March 01, 2016

Weekly Certification - Closing Statement

You are claiming for the week: 02/21/2016 thru 02/27/2016 Week number of your claim: 3

Your entries for your Weekly Claim are as follows:

Note: To edit a response, use the BACK button at the bottom of the page.

- 1. During the week listed above, did you work?
- 2. County where filing today?
- 3. Did you refuse an offer of work with your regular employer or in your usual occupation?
- 4. Were you physically able to work four or more days during the week?
- 5. Did you begin school or did your class schedule change?
- 6. Did you begin receiving pension benefits, or did the amount of your benefits change?
- 7. Did you receive any payments other than wages or pension from an employer such as vacation pay, holiday pay, worker's compensation or a bonus?

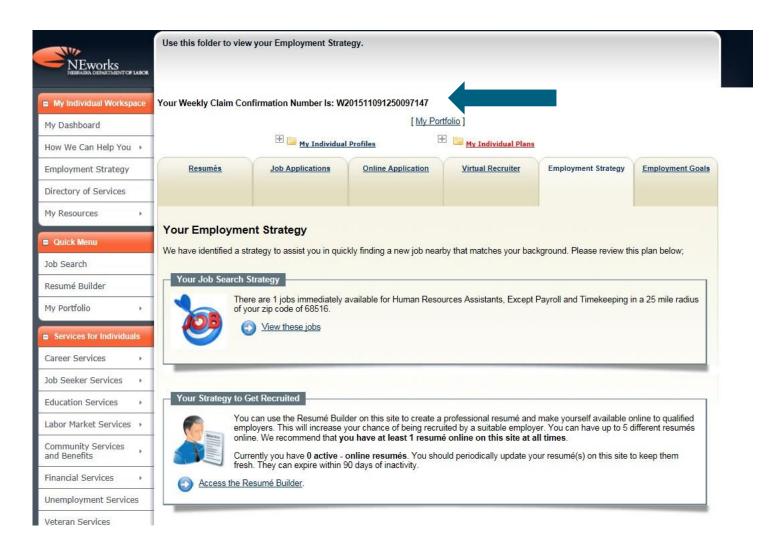
*
"I understand that I have filed for my weekly benefit claim. All information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the law provides for penalties, including loss of benefits and/or criminal charges, for making false statements to obtain unemployment benefits. Any week I claim benefits may be audited and I will be required to provide information regarding my eligibility for benefits."

SUBMIT

BACK

CANCEL

After you click **Submit**, you will be presented with a confirmation number. **This will confirm that you have completed the weekly claim process.** Please keep the confirmation number for your records.



If you are using a public computer, be sure to sign out of your NEworks account to protect your personal information.



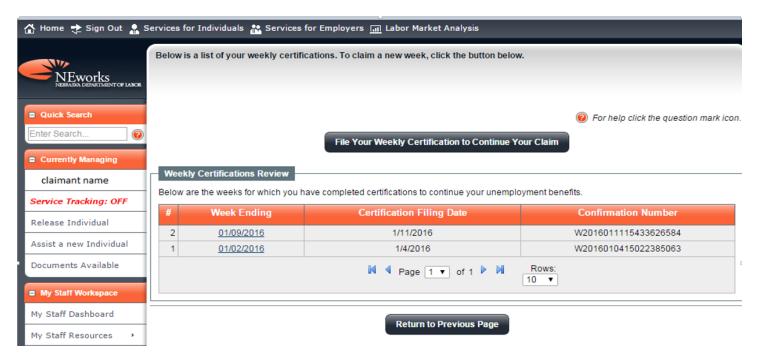
REVIEWING YOUR WORK SEARCH CONTACTS

You can view the work search contacts you submit each week.

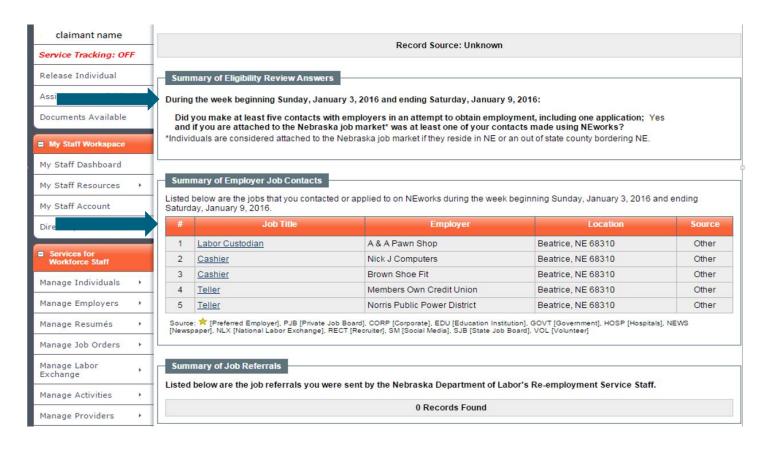
From the Unemployment Services Dashboard, click on File a Weekly Claim for Benefits.



Listed under **Weekly Certification Review**, click on the dates listed under **Week Ending** to view a detailed list of work search activity for the benefit week claimed.



Listed are your job contacts and applications by benefit week claimed. View the contact details by clicking on each job listed under **Job Title.**



For more information, visit dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits.

Equal Opportunity Program/Employer

TDD: 800.833.7352

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities

TTY: 402-471-0016